Investigation of Hawala Cases

2002. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Senior Officers who were investigating Hawala Case involving Jain brothers and politicians have been shifted from their current jobs; and

(b) whether their transfer was stayed by the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The then Director of Enforcement, Sir Javed Chowdhury, was relieved on promotion as Additional Secretary. Sir Amod Kanth, who had been functioning as Deputy Inspector General in the Central Bureau of Investigation, was relieved on completion of his tenure. No stay orders were issued by the Supreme Court in these cases.

Validity period of MOUs for Power Projects

2003. SHRI BALBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the MOUs signed so far and the date of signing of each MOU for setting up of power projects in the private sector;

(b) the validity period of each MOU and what action has been taken by the companies after signing the MOUs; and

(c) what follow up action has been taken by Government inrespect of these MOUs where validity period has expired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) The details are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix 174, Annexure No. 53].

(b) and (c) The progress of the Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) including their validity are basically monitored by the concerned State Governments. However, Government of India reviews the progress of all the private sector projects including those entrusted through the MOU route and extends necessary assisfance required by the promoters and the state authorities.

Outstanding dues payable by NTC Mills in Madhya Pradesh

2004. SHRI NARAIN PRASAD GUPTA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that 7 NTC mills situated in Madhya Pradesh owe an amount of Rs. 19.01 crores to Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board till March, 1995;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Central Government for making this payment;

(c) whether Government would consider deduction of an equivalent amount payable to these NTC mills by the Central Government and remit this amount directly to Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The 7 NTC mills situated in Madhya Pradesh owe an amount of Rs. 15.99 crores to Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board as on 31.3.95.

(b) to (d) It is basically NTC to clear the dues of the Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board. However, due to shortage of working capital and the losses suffered by the NTC, the NTC has not paid this amount. Government have approved a revised Turn around strategy for NTC mills.The revised Turn Around strategy has been placed before the BIFA

for its approval. The implementation of the Turn Around Plan is expected to make the NTC mills viable. NTC is expected to be able to clear the dues of Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board on implementation of the revised Turn Around Strategy.

Under-Utilisation of Tourism Market

2005. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's tourism market is under utilised at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some effective measures in this regard to give big push in tourism sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM) (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the statistical data made available by the World Tourism Organisation, for the year 1994, India's share of World Tourism is only 0.36%

(c) and (d) The measures taken to boost tourism include(a) Augmentation of Infrastructural Facilities in major tourist centres in a co-ordinated manner by pooling the resources of the Centre, State and Private sectors; (b) Provision of basic amenities and beautification around important tourist Heritage Centres; (c) Development of Tourism on a regional circuit basis; (d) Promote special thematic tourism, viz., Adventure Tourism, Sports Tourism, Budhist Circuit Tourism, Yoga and Ayurvedic Tourism, etc; (e) Promoting Wild Life Sancturies in India; (f) Promotion of Pilgrim Tourism as India has a number of pilgrim centres connected with various religions, such as, 'Hinduism, Islam, Catholic, Buddhists, Sikhism and Jainism.' These are frequented by a large number of pilgrims both from India and abroad; (g) Providing a package of incentives for private investment in tourism related activities; (h) Augmentation of transport facilities including special trains, such as, Palace on Wheels, Shatabdis, etc; (i) Developing adequate man-power resources in all sectors connected with tourism; (j) Implementing aggressive and effective marketing and promotional strategies in the major tourism generating countries.

Income Tax deduction at source

2006. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the impact of subscription to various saving schemes, including Mutual Funds and those of UTI after the proposal regarding deduction of income tax at the rate of 20 per cent at source was implemented;

(b) if so, with what results; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the deduction of income tax at source is proving a discouraging factor in the formation of savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The provisions under Section 194-K regarding deduction of income tax at source in respect of income from Units of Mutual Funds and of UTI have been introduced with effect from 1.7.1995. It is too early to assess the impact of these provisions.

(c) Incentives/concessions or disincentives basically alter the composition of savings rather than the volume or overall level. For promoting savings it is imperative to improve the parameters which have a bearing on savings behaviour. These include rate of growth in the economy, level of fiscal deficit, tax policies, inflation, efficiency of banking system and the capital markets and confidence in the economy. The various economic reform measures undertaken so far are expected to have a